Amendments to the Claims:

Please cancel claim 35 without prejudice. This listing of claims will replace all prior versions and listings of claims in the application:

Listing of Claims:

1-19.   (Canceled)

20.   (Withdrawn, previously presented) A method of assessing potential susceptibility to development of ALTE and/or SIDS in a subject including:

(a)   determination of the immunoglobulin A (IgA) level in a sample from the subject; and

(b)   prediction of susceptibility to development of ALTE and/or SIDS by comparison of said IgA level with a predetermined standard.

21.   (Currently amended) A method of assessing potential susceptibility to development of Acute Life Threatening Episodes (ALTE) and/or Sudden Infant Death Syndrome (SIDS) in a subject including:

(a)   determination of immunoglobulin A1 (IgA1) level in a sample from the subject; and

(b)   prediction of susceptibility to development of ALTE and/or SIDS by comparison of said IgA1 level with a predetermined standard.

22.   (Previously presented) A method according to claim 20 or claim 21 wherein the subject is a human infant.

23.   (Previously presented) A method according to claim 20 or claim 21 wherein the sample is a sample from a subject at the time of, or any time up to approximately 2 weeks after, an upper respiratory tract infection (URTI) and/or symptoms.

24.   (Previously presented) A method according to claim 20 or claim 21 wherein the immunoglobulin is secretory immunoglobulin.

25.   (Previously presented) A method according to claim 20 or claim 21 wherein the immunoglobulin is salivary immunoglobulin.

26.   (Previously presented) A method according to claim 20 or claim 21 wherein the sample is whole unstimulated saliva.

27.   (Previously presented) A method according to claim 20 or claim 21 wherein the subject is not fasting when the sample is collected.

28.   (Currently amended) A method according to claim 20 or claim 21 wherein the immunoglobulin level is determined by Enzyme Linked Immunosorbent Assay (ELISA).

29.   (Previously presented) A method according to claim 20 or claim 21 wherein the immunoglobulin level is determined by radial immunodiffusion.

30.   (Previously presented) A method according to claim 20 or claim 21 wherein the immunoglobulin level is analysed by a rapid near-subject assay.

31.   (Previously presented) A method according to claim 20 or claim 21 wherein the immunoglobulin level is determined by contacting a body secretion with an assay device or system on a support.

32.   (Previously presented) A method according to claim 20 or claim 21 wherein the immunoglobulin level is analysed by contacting an assay device or system with the saliva of the subject *in situ*.

33.   (Previously presented) A method according to claim 20 or claim 21 wherein the standard is a normal population standard.

34.   (Previously presented) A method according to claim 20 or claim 21 wherein the standard is an internal personal standard.

35.   (Canceled)

36.   (Currently amended) A method according to ~~claim 20 or~~ claim 21 further including comparison of the ratio of immunoglobulin level to ~~other indices selected from the group consisting of~~ indicators relating to any one or more of: IgM, IgG, and acute phase reactants ~~and other cellular components~~.

37.   (Withdrawn, previously presented) A method for assessing potential susceptibility to development of ALTE and/or SIDS in an infant including:

(a)   determination of the immunoglobulin A (IgA) and/or immunoglobulin A1 (IgA1) level in a sample of the infant's whole, unstimulated saliva; and

(b)   prediction of susceptibility to development of ALTE and/or SIDS by comparison of said IgA and/or said IgA1 level with a predetermined standard.

38.   (Withdrawn, previously presented) A kit when used in a method according to any one of claims 20, 21 or 37.

39.   (Withdrawn, previously presented) A methods of measuring immune function in children comprising:

(a)   determination of the immunoglobulin A (IgA) level in a sample from this subject; and

(b)   comparison of said IgA level with a predetermined standard.